

## **News Release**

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## **For More Information:**

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## VIRGINIA PARTICIPATING IN TASK FORCE ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR ELECTIONS

**RICHMOND, VA** — The Commonwealth of Virginia will be participating with the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) Task Force on Emergency Preparedness for Elections. Don Palmer, Secretary of the Virginia State Board of Elections, is one among twenty-three chief state election officials who will participate in the effort.

The NASS Task Force is a national initiative, formed in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, which struck the East Coast just days before the presidential election on November 6, 2012. NASS will focus on identifying laws and practices that enhance the ability of state election officials to prepare for, and respond to, emergency situations. Members will work with a wide array of stakeholders, including federal and state emergency management officials, as NASS develops a detailed report containing guidance for states.

The task force will convene by conference call beginning in March to determine the range of issues that will be researched and addressed. The task force's report is scheduled to be released early next year.

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